

VIRGINIA SALTWATER RECREATIONAL FISHING DEVELOPMENT FUND SUMMARY PROJECT APPLICATION*

NAME AND ADDRESS OF APPLICANT: Mike Meier Joe Grist VMRC Fisheries Management Division	PROJECT LEADER (name, phone, e-mail) Co project leaders: Mike Meier, Artificial Reef Program Joe Grist, Plans and Statistics Department
PRIORITY AREA OF CONCERN: Virginia's Chesapeake Bay and Atlantic coastal waters.	PROJECT LOCATION: VMRC permitted artificial reef sites.

DESCRIPTIVE TITLE OF PROJECT:

Reef Monitoring Equipment Support for VMRC's Fisheries Management Division.

PROJECT SUMMARY:

\$42,964 is requested to cover the cost of purchasing fish traps and related accessories, fishing equipment, storage equipment and supplies, and an underwater video system. These supplies and equipment would be used in a joint effort between the Artificial Reef Program and the Plans and Statistics Dept. to develop a pilot in-house monitoring program.

The fishing gear and traps would be used to systematically sample reef fish populations on the reefs and the video system to attempt to visually assess fish populations and monitor the condition of reef materials. Our initial goal would to be conduct sampling activities using two agency vessels at frequency of 16 - 32 days per year on two reef sites. Our sampling protocol would be developed prior to starting work in March or April of '08, continuing through October.

EXPECTED BENEFITS:

The Artificial Reef Program has conducted no consistent monitoring activity during the course of its 32 year history. Monitoring in this context refers to assessing fish populations and investigating development of fouling organisms on reef structure. The UW/ video system would augment in-house sonar equipment (provided by earlier RFAB funding) by providing visual records in addition to sonar imaging.

Information generated would provide a better picture than we now have as to the role the reefs are playing in terms of providing habitat for finfish and benthic communities in general. The primary goal of this project would be the development of an on-going, reasonably comprehensive monitoring program that could be continued in-house or turned over to outside expertise, such as research universities, once workable protocols were established.

COSTS:

Please see the attached sheet of "Project Items".

VMRC Funding: \$42,964.00

Recipient Funding:

Total Costs: \$42,964.00

Detailed budget must be included with proposal.

Updated 6/1/05

REEF MONITORING EQUIPMENT SUPPORT FOR THE VMRC FISHERIES MANAGEMENT DIVISION

PROJECT ITEMS	AMOUNT		QUANTITY	UNIT	TOTAL AMOUNT	
Fish Sampling						
Boat (12 hours per day, 6 gallons per hour)	\$	252.00	32	Fuel/Day	\$	8,064.00
Fish Traps and Trap Accessories	\$	250.00	6	Traps	\$	1,500.00
Fishing Rods	\$	100.00	12	Rods	\$	1,200.00
Fishing Rigs and Bait per Rod	\$	100.00	12	Gear/Bait	\$	1,200.00
Fish Storage Equipment and Supplies	\$	1,000.00			\$	1,000.00
Video Monitoring						
Underwater Video System for fish production estimation	\$	30,000.00			\$	30,000.00
				TOTAL	\$	42,964.00